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INFORMATION BULLETIN

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The Arthur Rubinstein Collection

Also: The Librarian Announces 'Civilization' Magazine

Library of Congress

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Vol. 53, No. 9
May 2, 1994

JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress

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On the Cover: Ballerina Eva Rubinstein practices to the accompaniment of her world-class father, Arthur Rubinstein. *Photo from Rubinstein Collection in Music Division*

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Library Announces New National Magazine:
Civilization *to Be Launched in November*

Dr Billington announced April 13 that the Library has formed a partnership with L.O.C. Management Corp. of New York to launch a bimonthly membership magazine: *Civilization.*

"We think readers will respond to *Civilization* with the same excitement that visitors feel when they come to the Library and see what we have here—ranging from the papers of George Washington to Mathew Brady's Civil War photos to Charlie Chaplin's early films to the latest published ideas and information from all over the world," said Dr. Billington.

The long-awaited new magazine, he said, "will promote public appreciation of libraries everywhere."

The first issue will be published in November 1994, almost six years after LC began talks on the project.

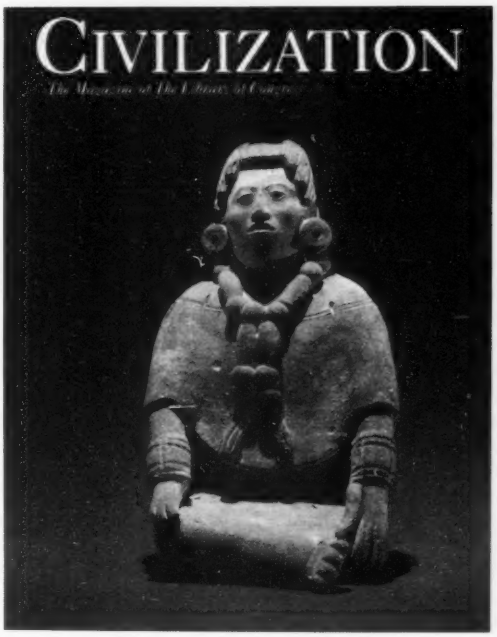
The editor of *Civilization* will be Stephen G. Smith, 45, former executive editor of *Newsweek* and Nation editor of *Time* and, most recently, Washington news editor for Knight-Ridder Newspapers.

"We will use the vast riches of the Library to illuminate both the past and the present," Mr. Smith said. "History will be mined to provide a context—often a surprising one—for the world today. The magazine will not shy away from humor, irony or sharp edges."

"*Civilization* will be elegantly designed and beautifully illustrated," Mr. Smith added. "America's best writers will contribute articles, each bringing a strongly individual voice, viewpoint and literary style."

Mr. Smith said that in each issue he plans to publish a calendar of major upcoming events at libraries around the country, among other features.

Raymond J. Sachs, 53, a former general manager and senior vice president of *Bon Appetit* and longtime advertising executive, has been named chief executive officer and publisher of *Civilization.*



Sample cover of *Civilization*

Mr. Sachs said the magazine's initial paid circulation will be between 140,000 and 160,000 through subscriptions and newsstand distribution in bookstores and on major newsstands across the nation.

"The direct-mail test results for *Civilization* were extraordinary," said Mr. Sachs. "We performed well above the industry average and are confident that the circulation will be over 300,000 with our second issue and should eventually grow to 750,000."

Civilization, The Magazine of the Library of Congress will be published under a license from LC. The magazine will be operated by a partnership controlled by L.O.C. Management Corp., which is based in New York City. The editorial offices will be on Capitol Hill, close to the Library.

Mark M. Edmiston, partner in Jordan-Edmiston Group, a New York investment banking firm, will serve as chairman of the company. He is a former president of *Newsweek* and served as a consultant on the successful launch of *Health* magazine. Mr. Edmiston and Charles A. Rodin, a magazine consultant, came to the Library of Congress with the *Civilization* concept. Mr. Rodin will be the senior executive in charge of marketing the magazine to the advertising community.

President of L.O.C. Management Corp. will be H. Fred Krimendahl, the managing partner of Petrus Partners Ltd., which is *Civilization*'s primary financial backer. Mr. Krimendahl is a former senior partner of Goldman, Sachs & Co. and president and director of the Philharmonic Symphony Society of New York.

Pace Communications Inc. of Greensboro, N.C., a custom publisher, will provide administrative and production services.

Individuals who become national members of the Library of Congress by paying a $20 annual fee will receive a subscription to *Civilization,* among other special benefits—notably discounts at the LC retail shop. The Library will receive a gift of $1 per membership fee as well as a one

time $250,000 licensing fee. The magazine will be entirely supported by private funds under a plan approved last fall by Congress's Joint Committee on the Library. The magazine staff will not include LC employees.

The Library of Congress will have one seat on the L.O.C.Management Corp.'s Board of Directors. It will have total control over the use of the Library's name in editorial, advertising and promotion efforts; LC will also receive free use of *Civilization* subscriber lists, two free pages in each issue of the magazine and free copies for distribution to the nation's 1,500 depository libraries.

"This is a cooperative effort," said Peter Braestrup, LC senior editor and director of communications, who has been the Library's representative on developing the project since early 1989. "We have had many excellent ideas from Library staffers."

The *Civilization* project, he noted, was not the first LC magazine project. The illustrated *Quarterly Journal of the Library of Congress,* published by the Government Printing Office for a small circulation on skimpy federal funds, ran from 1943 to 1983, and, he said, "was a labor of love for the editors. It became a distinguished scholarly showcase for the Library's collections. There are plenty of good ideas in those back issues for *Civilization.*"

The new project began in early 1989 when Mr. Edmiston and Mr. Rodin came to the Library to present the idea of *Civilization,* a monthly magazine, to Mr. Braestrup and the Librarian. Discussions continued, along with briefings for congressional staffers, and a preliminary agreement was signed in December 1989. In January 1991 a circulation market test, mailing a "send no money now" subscriber solicitation to more than 200,000 names on more than 45 mailing lists, proved highly successful, with a response rate of more than 7 percent.

The test was devised by Anne S. Keating, former associate publisher and circulation director of *Smithsonian* magazine (circ. 2.2 million) and a member of the *Civilization* team.

Mr. Braestrup described the test and the project in testimony before the House legislative appropriations subcommittee in February 1991. Subcommittee Chairman Vic Fazio (D-Calif.) offered his best wishes.

Unfortunately, Mr. Braestrup said recently, "the magazine industry was in its worst recession since the 1930s. It was not the best time to attract investors in a magazine start-up."

In 1991–92, he recalled, perhaps a dozen potential investors, including publishers and venture capitalists, met with Mr. Edmiston and Mr. Rodin, toured the Library, met the Librarian, examined the test results, liked what they saw and then, citing the economic climate, backed away. In 1993 the economy began to look more promising and, to investors, so did the evolving *Civilization* concept. A new business plan, for a bimonthly, was drafted last summer. The Joint Committee on the Library endorsed the project.

On Oct. 26, 1993, Mr. Edmiston, Mr. Rodin, Mr. Sachs and Mr. Krimendahl, Frank Walter and Wesley Huang of Petrus Partners met with Dr. Billington, and the project took on new life. A 90,000-name circulation "retest" directed by Ms. Keating in January 1994 repeated the success of the 1991 test: There was still a healthy demand for a Library of Congress magazine.

According to Mr. Braestrup, "Over $5 million" was then committed, including $4 million in up-front capital. Startup preparations, legal work and negotiations over the partnership took up most of February and March. On April 11, the Librarian signed the licensing agreement. The staffs of the relevant congressional committees were duly informed prior to Dr. Billington's public announcement.

"The money and leadership are in place," said Mr. Braestrup. "Now comes the hard work: producing a successful magazine. The potential benefits to the public, to the Library of Congress, to Congress itself and to all libraries are enormous. If this talented group can't do it, with the Library's cooperation, nobody can."

He said General Counsel John Kominski played a key role in Library negotiations on the licensing agreement, which required prior LC approval of the *Civilization* editorial concept, business plan, market tests, financial arrangements and other details. Over the years, Mr. Braestrup said, help and advice came from many staff members, including Financial Services' Ajit Gadre; Craig D'Ooge, public affairs media director; Helen Dalrymple and Jeanne Smith, public affairs specialists; Abby Smith, special assistant to Winston Tabb, associate librarian for Collections Services; John Y. Cole, director of Center for the Book; Stephen Ostrow, chief of the Prints and Photographs Division; Linda Washington, director of Photoduplication Services, and her colleagues; Daniel Mulhollan, director of the Congressional Research Service; and Steve Kelley and Angela Evans, acting director, of the Congressional Relations staff.

Civilization's staffers are now hard at work preparing for the magazine's launch. During the past few weeks they have been combing the Library's collections for article ideas, as well as working to set up *Civilization*'s new offices at 666 Pennsylvania Ave. SE.

The magazine was the subject of short articles in *The New York Times,* the *Wall Street Journal* and the *Washington Post* after its inauguration was publicly announced April 13. Since then, dozens of callers have telephoned to inquire about subscribing to the magazine.

Those interested in membership subscriptions should send their name and address, **but no money,** *to Civilization, 666 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20003–9997.*

Lippincott Award to Go to LC Employee:
Frank Kurt Cylke of National Library Service Gets Honor

Frank Kurt Cylke, Director of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) of the Library of Congress, is this year's choice to receive the Joseph W. Lippincott Award, bestowed by the American Library Association (ALA) for a lifetime of distinguished librarianship. The award will be presented during the ALA Annual Meeting in Miami Beach, June 23–30.

Under Mr. Cylke's direction, the number of users of NLS services has increased to more than 700,000 persons, ranging in age from preschool to over 100. The budget of NLS has grown from $9.9 million in fiscal 1973, when Mr. Cylke was named director, to nearly $43 million in fiscal 1994. He joined the Library in 1970 as executive director of the Federal Library Committee (now called Federal Library and Information Center Committee).

"Kurt Cylke has spent the past 20 years providing exceptional service to visually and physically impaired persons," said Librarian of Congress

Frank Kurt Cylke

James. H. Billington. "I join the American Library Association in congratulating him on his distinguished achievement."

The award is named for its original sponsor: publisher, author and friend of libraries Joseph W. Lippincott, who designated that the award honor notable professional achievement by a librarian. Given since 1938, it was the first ALA award to honor a librarian.

Services of NLS are provided through a partnership among the Library of Congress, the U.S. Postal Service and 145 regional and subregional libraries across the United States and in its territories. "Each partner has an important role to play," said Donald C. Curran, Associate Librarian for Constituent Services. "To bring out the best in everyone is the responsibility of the director. It is that fine touch in getting all the players to act in harmony for a mutual goal where Kurt has made a most outstanding contribution."

Mr. Cylke's award is based on his leadership contributions in serving the many varied needs of blind and physically handicapped persons using the network coordinated by NLS, a free program of braille, large-print and recorded materials available to U.S. citizens anywhere in the world. Under Mr. Cylke's guidance the number of items available and their ease of use have increased dramatically.

LC Makes Several High-Level Appointments

Copyright Office

Mary Berghaus Levering, who has been serving a detail to the Copyright Office since August 1993, was appointed April 4 to a new position of deputy register of copyrights.

She will be responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the Copyright Office and will fully assume responsibilities of the register of copyright in the register's absence.

Dr. Billington made the appointment under his authority to reassign senior-level staff. "Ms. Levering's combination of education and experience in law and librarianship, coupled with her penchant for hard work and ability to motivate people, make her a perfect choice for this position," Dr. Billington said in his announcement of the appointment.

Ms. Levering has been executive director of the Federal Library and Information Center Committee (FLICC) since 1989. Louis R. Mortimer, chief of the Federal Research Division, has been assigned to serve collateral duties as executive director of FLICC on a temporary basis.

Ms. Levering was detailed to the Copyright Office in August 1993 to assist in its operation during a transition period following Ralph Oman's retirement as register of copyrights.

She came to the Library in 1966 as a member of LC's intern program for outstanding library school graduates. Among her assignments of increasing responsibility at LC were those as director for acquisitions and overseas operations in the Processing Department (now Collections Services); assistant coordinator of review in the Congressional Research Service; assistant chief of the Network Development Office at the National Library Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

Mary Berghaus Levering

(NLS/BPH); and chief of the Network Division, NLS/BPH.

Ms. Levering received a bachelor's degree, maxima cum laude, from the University of Portland in Oregon (1965); a master's degree in library science, with distinction, from the University of Washington (1966); and a J.D. degree from the Georgetown University Law Center in 1977. A member of the Supreme Court Bar and the District of Columbia Bar, she is active in intellectual property law and government contracts sections of the District of Columbia Bar Association and Federal Bar Association (FBA). She has served on the council of the FBA's Capitol Hill chapter.

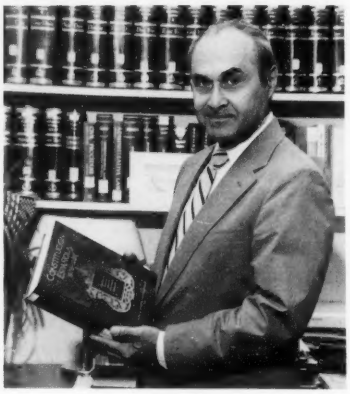
Law Library

Rubens Medina, chief of the Hispanic Law Division at the Library of Congress since 1971, has been named Law Librarian.

"Dr. Medina brings to this position not only broad skills and experience as a legal scholar and researcher, but also a proven record as an able manager," said Librarian of Congress James H. Billington, who made the appointment. "He has taken a pioneering role in realizing the potential that new digital technologies are bringing to the legal information community and in applying those technologies to innovative new endeavors for the Law Library."

Dr. Medina began his legal studies in Paraguay, his native country, where he became a lawyer and taught at the National University of Paraguay. He then came to the United States in 1964 to pursue advanced legal research and study under fellowships from the University of Wisconsin's Land Tenure Center and from the Organization of American States.

In 1966 Dr. Medina received a master of science degree in legal in-



Rubens Medina

stitutions from the University of Wisconsin at Madison and a Ph.D. in law and sociology from the same institution in 1970.

Dr. Medina has held teaching positions at the Universidad Nacional de Asuncion and the Pontificia Universidad Catolica Nuestra Senora de la Asuncion in Paraguay. He has also taught at the Universidad Catolica de Valparaiso, Chile, the University of Wisconsin Law School and New York University Law School.

"I have every confidence that Dr. Medina will provide the Law Library with the leadership it needs to meet the dual challenges of providing more effective services within the diminished resources of our austere budgetary climate and of making the collections and research of the Law Library more broadly available through electronic dissemination," Dr. Billington added.

Dr. Medina will be a member of the Library Management Team, which advises Dr. Billington on operations of the Library.

African, Middle Eastern Division

On Feb. 6, Beverly A. Gray assumed her new position as chief of the African and Middle Eastern Division at the Library.

Ms. Gray will be responsible for the overall administration of the division and its three sections, Near East, Hebraic and African. The division is responsible for reference, acquisitions, bibliographic and special project activities focusing on the geographical area. Each year, the three sections handle more than 25,000 reference inquiries from researchers in person or by correspondence. The subjects of requests illustrate the tremendous diversity of scholarly interest in the area, ranging from educational television in the Ivory Coast to the published works of the Ayatollah

Beverly Gray

Khomeini, and from Yom Kippur prayers to the nuclear capability of South Africa.

Ms. Gray joined the Library in 1972 as a senior reference librarian

and an area specialist in the African Section. She was promoted to head of the African Section in 1978 and has served as acting division chief on several occasions, most recently for nine months in 1993.

Ms. Gray holds a bachelor's degree in social sciences from Simmons College, master's degrees in political science and library science, and a certificate in African studies, all from Columbia University.

Ms. Gray has written numerous bibliographies and reports on Africa. She is also an active member of several library and area studies organizations, including the African Studies Association and its African Libraries Council and the Cooperative Africana Microform Project.

She serves on several advisory boards for projects relating to Africana. At the Library, Ms. Gray has served on the Goals Organization and Planning Task Force, the Intern Committee, the Foreign Newspaper Working Group and the West African Survey Team.

Japan Documentation Center

On March 7, Ichiko Morita became the first director of the Library of Congress's Japan Documentation Center.

For the past decade, Ms. Morita has served as professor and head of the Cataloging Department at Ohio State University. Previously, she served as instructor in Japanese at the University of Oregon. A graduate of Okayama University in Japan, she received her master's degree in library science from the University of Chicago.

Ichiko Morita

The Japan Documentation Center, located in the Library's Asian Division, was established in 1992 in response to a congressional directive to enhance Asian collections to keep Congress better informed. The center is focusing on the acquisition of hard-to-find reports and other documents issued by the Japanese government, think tanks and private research centers on political, economic, legal and policy issues.

Once obtained, the Library will make these documents available to Congress, the executive branch, industrial research centers and other users throughout the nation.

The center's operations are funded in large part by the Center for Global Partnership of the Japan Foundation.

The Japan Documentation Center on March 18 hosted a conference on "Technical Requirements for Accessing Japanese Information: Problems and Solutions" (a full report will be published in an upcoming LC *Information Bulletin*).

Ms. Morita's research interests have focused on Japanese "gray literature," the kind of material the Japan Documentation Center is designed to collect and distribute. She conducted research on this topic in Japan on a grant from the U.S. government and has published articles in both Japanese and English, including "Japanese Technical Information: Its Infrastructure" for the *Encyclopedia of Library and Information Science*. Ms. Morita will direct the center's operations both at the Library of Congress and at its Tokyo Acquisitions Facility in Japan.

LC, Smithsonian Join On Film Project

The Library of Congress and the Smithsonian Institution on April 13 announced the release of "The Library of Congress Video Collection" by Smithsonian Video.

"Rare Silent Films" draws upon the unique resources of the collections of the Library of Congress Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division (a full report will be published in a future LC *Information Bulletin*). The group of six videocassettes includes important titles selected on the basis of recommendations from film historians, educators, and movie buffs. Some are newly restored prints of films long acknowledged to be historically important but not widely available. New piano scores have been added to all the films.

This six-cassette collection comprises the following:

☐ Vol. 1, *The African American Cinema I.*

☐ Vol. 2, *Origins of the Gangster Film.*

☐ Vol. 3, *Origins of American Animation, 1900–1921.*

☐ Vol. 4, *Origins of the Fantasy Feature.*

☐ Vol. 5, *The African American Cinema II.*

☐ Vol. 6, *America's First Women Filmmakers.*

The Library of Congress Video Collection will be available for $34.95 per volume in the Library's Sales Shop and in Smithsonian museum shops and other retail outlets throughout the country. Videos are also available from the American International Distribution Corp. Shipping and handling is $3.50. For additional sales information, call (800) 669–1559 or write Smithsonian Video, 64 Depot Road, Colchester, VT 05446.

The Myths of Poetry:

Rita Dove Addresses National Press Club Audience

Poet Laureate Rita Dove wants to "chase the bugaboos out of the closet" when it comes to poetry.

At a March 17 news conference and luncheon at the National Press Club, Ms. Dove talked about popular stereotypes of poetry, the current role of poetry in American society and the role it could play for a wider, more appreciative audience. "Poetry—merely whispering its name—can frighten people out of the room," Ms. Dove quipped.

"As a poet standing before you, I find it exhilarating that poetry has become news again," she said, addressing an audience primarily composed of journalists. But she noted that interviewers and reporters rarely ask her about her actual poems—they focus instead upon how she defines poetry or ask her to discuss its influence on her life.

A reluctance to grapple with verse is encountered throughout popular American culture. Ms. Dove suggests that the origin of this disinterest and distrust is rooted in people's stereotypes about poetry and poets. "Who's afraid of poetry is not as interesting a question as why [they are afraid]," she said.

According to Ms. Dove, the belief that poetry is too difficult to comprehend is a primary reason people fear and dislike poetry. Ironically, Ms. Dove noted, one of the most popular poems ever, "Jabberwocky," by the English author Lewis Carroll, is rife with nonsense words whose individual meanings are unintelligible, and yet, when strung together, the words impart a sense of meaning. "Alice explains what she thinks happens in the poem, but the parts that keep floating in her head—that's poetry," Ms. Dove commented.

She also cited the belief that poetry is too academic and not about real life as a major reason people avoid it. Ms. Dove then dispelled that myth by illustrating how her 1987 Pulitzer Prize-winning book, *Thomas and Beulah*, sprang from personal experience. The work chronicles, through actual and fictionalized events, the courtship and marriage of her grandparents.

Ms. Dove described her childhood memory of a story that her grandmother told about the life of Ms. Dove's grandfather. The story haunted Ms. Dove, and eventually it became the inspiration for "The Event," a poem that forms part of the larger work; it also became the thread that Ms. Dove used to carry the story forward to Akron, Ohio, where her grandfather settled.

A large Quaker Oats factory was located in Akron during her youth, and her memory of the smell of burnt oatmeal cookies provided the spark for the story's continuation. "The tiny detail is the hinge that swings open the door onto the poem. I found my hinge and entered my grandfather's Akron through the sense of smell," she said.

Ms. Dove also commented upon the important role that sound plays in poetry. "I pay a great deal of attention to the rhythm and cadence of a poem—it's a way of speaking musically. Poems convince us in our bones that how you say things *does* matter. Poetry has a sense of itself as sound, and sound can influence how we think," she said.

Rita Dove
Photo by Fred Viebahn

The ability of poetry to stir emotions and inspire people to action has made its use at social or political events appealing. In recent times, several presidents have featured the reading of a poem as part of their inaugural ceremony. Ms. Dove noted, however, that most people have not taken advantage of the potential that poets and poetry have to influence political and social issues in the United States. She commented that while she was living in Germany, she was surprised to discover that poets were often asked to comment on contemporary issues. "Soviet poets have filled stadiums," Ms. Dove said, adding, "It never happens here."

When asked how she felt the role of poetry could be expanded in America, Ms. Dove urged journalists to revive the past tradition of reviewing books of poetry, which in recent years has largely been abandoned. She also suggested running poems daily in newspapers.

Embarking upon her second year as Poet Laureate, Dove already has an established record of success in presenting unique and ambitious programs that break down the misconceptions surrounding poetry. Her second term offers an opportunity to bring to fruition her dream of bringing poetry back into the mainstream of daily life.

—*Patricia Craig*

Patricia Craig is an archives technician in the Manuscript Division.

'The Tragic German Patriot':

Fourth Schurz Lecture Focuses on Thomas Mann

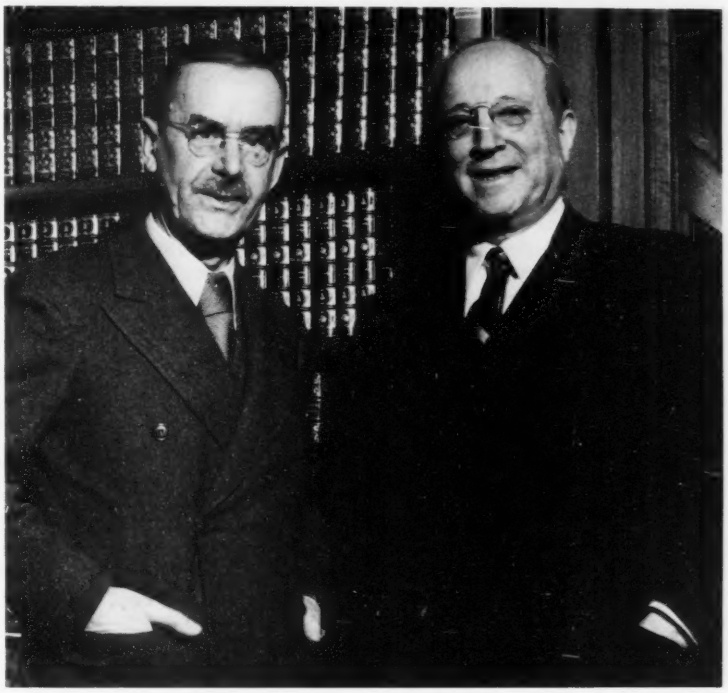
Hans Rudolf Vaget, an internationally recognized authority on Thomas Mann, the German writer who in 1942–45 was a consultant to the Library, lectured March 25 on "The Tragic German Patriot: Thomas Mann's American Years".

The occasion was the fourth in the Carl Schurz lecture series, established in 1989 in cooperation with the German-American Cultural Fund of Washington, to honor the German-born Schurz (1829–1906), author, journalist and abolitionist who served as a senator, Cabinet member, Union Army general and ambassador.

As early as 1942 exiled German novelist Thomas Mann spoke out against the Nazi death camps as he struggled to reconcile his love for his native land with his hatred for the evil it was doing, according to Dr. Vaget, professor at Smith College.

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington opened the 1994 event and told the audience that the Library's German-language collections, which comprise more than 2.25 million volumes, include approximately 1,200 titles by and about Thomas Mann. He also expressed appreciation to Margrit B. Krewson, German/Dutch area specialist in the Library's European Division, for organizing the evening's program. And he introduced Lothar Griessbach, president of the German-American Cultural Fund and sponsor of German cultural events in Washington, who introduced the speaker. Guests at the lecture were invited to view a small exhibition of Mann memorabilia relating to the author's tenure at the Library.

Dr. Vaget, recent recipient of the Thomas Mann Medal given by the German Thomas Mann Society, is Helen and Laura Shedd Professor of German and Comparative Literature at Smith. He also is the editor of the 1937–1955 correspondence between Mann and Agnes Meyer, wife of then owner of *The Washington Post* Eugene Meyer and herself a journalist.



Thomas Mann (left) and Eugene Meyer, husband of Agnes Meyer, who arranged for Mann's consultantship at the Library; "no institutional affiliation filled [Mann] with greater pride than [that] at the Library of Congress."

It was Mrs. Meyer who arranged for Mann's well-known affiliation with the Library of Congress, in which he served as consultant in Germanic literature for three years beginning in 1942. He continued as a Library fellow in German literature until his death.

"Thomas Mann's American years would hardly have become the success story that they undeniably were without the good will and generosity of many private persons and institutions in this country, of which he was to become a proud citizen in 1944," Dr. Vaget told his audience. "No one played a more crucial role in all of this than Agnes Meyer, and no institutional affiliation filled him with greater pride than the one Agnes Meyer arranged for him at the Library of Congress."

The speaker quoted frequently from the Mann-Meyer letters in describing Mann's years in America between 1938 and 1952 as years in which Mann abandoned the concept

Prosser Gifford, director of Scholarly Programs, points out an item in a small display from the Manuscript Division's Mann collection to (from left): Hans Rudolf Vaget, Dr. Billington and Lothar Griessbach. *Photo by Jim Higgins*

of two Germanys, one good and one evil.

"Not only did he realize that most nations would be unable to distinguish between Nazi Germany and an invisible yet supposedly more authentic other Germany, but he also came to doubt the very existence of the other Germany," said Dr. Vaget. In the end, Mann settled for a significantly modified version of the One-Germany theory: Yes, there was only one Germany, but, like Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, it had two identities, one good, the other evil.

"The sad truth was that in the final analysis it was simply not possible to separate one from the other. This, then, is the central notion of his famous and controversial address on the subject of 'Germany and the Germans,' which was given on May 29, 1945, here at the Library of Congress."

Dr. Vaget said Thomas Mann accepted the premise that there was only one Germany, "whose very best was turned into the very worst through machinations worthy of the devil," only slowly and reluctantly because its implications were painful and far-reaching, not the least for himself and for his work.

"Mann was unsparing in naming the German-generated evils, of which the most monstrous were the death camps; that is to say, the Holocaust, the magnitude of which was coming to light at only that time. Mann began speaking out about the death camps in September of 1942, at a time when rumors of the Holocaust still met with incredulity and indifference. He very accurately predicted that the camps would become the most potent symbol of the Third Reich and its legacy.

"For Mann, most disquieting of all was the fact that these horrors came from the very same country that had produced some of the greatest glories of Western music," Dr. Vaget continued. "Pursuing this, though, could lead only to a melancholy and deeply tragic realization, the realization that everything German, even the German mind and spirit, is implicated. By everything German, Mann means just that. It includes—indeed first and foremost—his own work."

As evidence of this, Dr. Vaget quoted Mann's words to a Library of Congress audience:

"It is all within me; the truths that one tries to utter about one's own people can only be the product of self-examination."

Mann never returned to Germany to live after World War II, but he did visit both East and West Germany and in 1952 moved to Switzerland because he wanted to be buried in European soil, according to Dr. Vaget. Mann also had become disenchanted with America during the McCarthy era when he was accused of being a communist dupe, the speaker said; but his friendship with Agnes Meyer never wavered.

In a letter to Mrs. Meyer, written six months before his death in 1955, Mann likened himself to the Steadfast Tin Soldier, the hero of Hans Christian Andersen's tale, by calling him "the symbol of my life." The soldier showed "fabulous steadfastness" in his love for a beautiful but "indifferent and unattainable dancer," Dr. Vaget said.

"The secret of his steadfastness is revealed only after the soldier's death; when his body is melted down it is miraculously reconfigured in the shape of a heart. What kept him going all along, then, was his loving heart."

The speaker concluded that "Mann refrains from hinting at the object of his own undying though tragic love, but there is no doubt as to its identity; it was Germany, his Germany.

"Love of country is a prerequisite of patriotism; love of Germany in this century is a love of anguish and despair. Yet this is the grand, but sorrowful, thought that stood before Mann's eyes at the end of his life and that warrants the characterization, 'tragic German patriot.'"

—Jeanne Smith

Jeanne Smith is a public affairs specialist in the Public Affairs Office.

'Wailing Wall' or 'Window of Hope'?:

Former Hungarian TV President Speaks on Post-Communism

On March 23 Elemer Hankiss, author, scholar and former president of Hungarian Television, offered several seemingly contradictory views of the Iron Curtain that divided Eastern and Western Europe prior to the fall of communism in 1989.

Describing it as a "wailing wall" but also a "window of hope" for those enslaved by it, Dr. Hankiss explained that, by contrast, Western Europe viewed the physical and ideological barriers dividing Europe as "a comfortable protection" and a "flattering mirror, enhancing one's virtues by contrast."

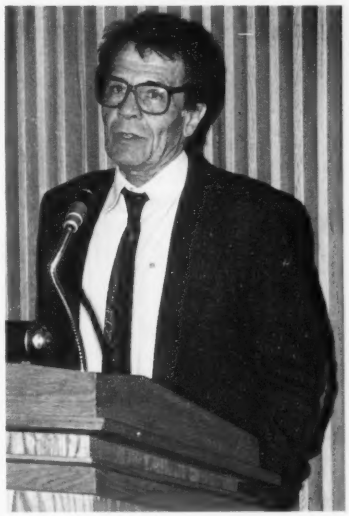
Dr. Hankiss delivered his remarks in the Library's Mary Pickford Theater. His visit was the latest in a series of monthly lectures by experts on European social, political and economic topics sponsored by the European Division. A professor of political science at the University of Budapest, Dr. Hankiss is currently the E.L. Wiegand Distinguished Professor of Democratization at Georgetown University.

President of Hungarian Television from August 1990 until January 1993, Dr. Hankiss played a major role in the "Hungarian Media War," a conflict between the government and Hungarian Television and Radio over the independence of the media, which began early in 1990 and continues today. He and a colleague resigned in protest against political interference in January 1993, but the president of the republic, Arpad Goncz, did not accept their resignations.

According to Dr. Hankiss, the barriers between East and West often bred not only opposition to communist oppression but a subtle and subversive complacency among populations on both sides. In the East, although the communist government trampled on human rights, its oppressive but clearly drawn rules also protected and simplified life for the populace.

People also viewed themselves as martyrs, a "delicious and gratifying" role that justified their tendency to focus "on the sacred cause and on their own sufferings. . . . For them, Western freedom and prosperity were invincible proofs of the fact that, in spite of all their miserable experience, life was worth living."

Meanwhile, Western Europeans became complacent in the vague belief that they would be able to save their brethren some day. "The task and duty of liberating the East and defeating communism offered a fascinating, St. Georgian role and identity to [these] people . . . even if, for the time being, they could be only 'armchair missionaries.'



"Democracy has won. The free market has won. To what is the human being in the democratic West now truly committed? I think this emptiness, this potential emptiness, if not yet the reality, is dangerous."

—Elemer Hankiss

"It lent them the flattering aura of moral grandeur," Dr. Hankiss continued. "It allowed them to cheat themselves . . . with the comfort and illusion of a simple and transparent world in which the West shone as the glorious Empire of the Light, and the East played the role of the Empire of Darkness."

Since the fall of communism in Eastern Europe, the formerly oppressed have learned that freedom does not automatically lead to happiness and the West has learned the high costs of aiding the emerging democracies, Dr. Hankiss said.

As for the West, the sudden absence of a clear enemy and a Berlin Wall has left a void. Dr. Hankiss quoted Zbigniew Brzezinski on this subject who, during a 1990 speech at Georgetown University explained, "Democracy has won. The free market has won. But what in the wake of this great ideological victory is today the substance of our beliefs? To what is the human being in the democratic West now truly committed? . . . I think this emptiness, this potential emptiness, if not yet the reality, is dangerous.

"We've gotten almost everything from the West: the Renaissance, Bolshevism, AIDS," he concluded. "But now we must focus on what Eastern Europe can offer to the West that is valuable and how we can become equal partners in the world economy. That is the question we must answer."

—*Barbara Bryant*

Barbara Bryant is on the staff of the Public Affairs Office.

Rubinstein at the height of his career (left). He liked an open piano so he could look over the strings as well as the keyboard; a young Rubinstein, around the time of his 1906 New York appearance. *Photos from Music Division*

A Man of Music—and Letters:

Rubinstein Collection Holds Thousands of Pieces of Correspondence

by Jeanne Smith

Four presidents, a reigning monarch and a queen-to-be, many of the finest musicians of this century, Hollywood legends, Pablo Picasso, Albert Einstein, columnist Art Buchwald—and Hugh Hefner.

What do they have in common?

They, along with hundreds of 'music lovers with names few would recognize, wrote to Arthur Rubinstein (1887?–1982) during the pianist's long lifetime. And an amazing number received personal responses.

The Rubinstein Collection, consisting of approximately 16,000 items, is a new addition to resources available to researchers in the Library's Music Division.

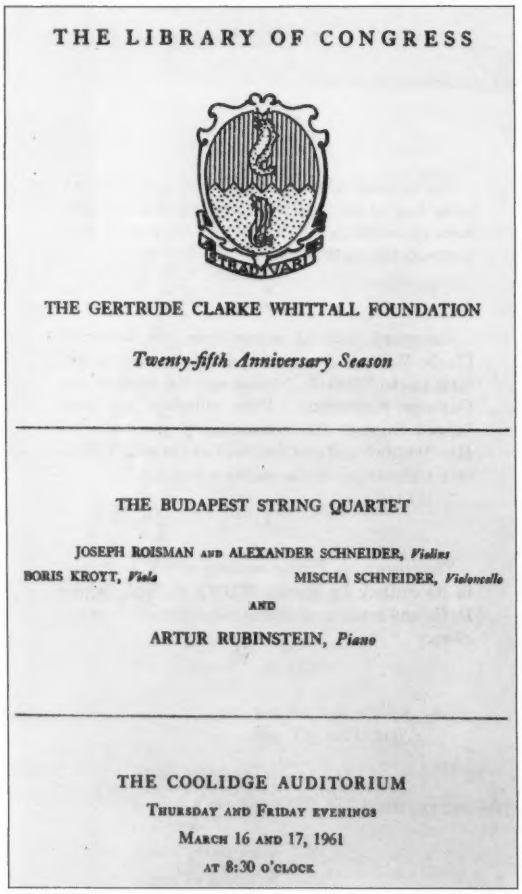
Processing of the collection, bequeathed to the Library by Rubinstein and received in 1991 from his widow, Aniela, who lives in Paris, recently was completed in the Library's high-priority arrearage reduction program. It is housed in 50 manuscript boxes and is arranged alphabetically by correspondent.

The collection consists primarily of correspondence addressed to Rubinstein; many items bear instructions from the pianist on how to respond to his thousands of letters, invitations and other requests. There are letters, drafts and replies from Rubinstein as well.

A quick perusal of the correspondence, business cards, invitations, bills, canceled checks, advertising brochures, memos, press clippings, programs and the like that the pianist chose to keep yields some firsthand insights into one of the world's best loved musicians:

He was as warm and generous as his friends described him.

He valued friendships and tended



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THURSDAY AND FRIDAY EVENINGS
MARCH 16 AND 17, 1961
AT 8:30 o'CLOCK

Program for March 16–17, 1961, concerts with Budapest String Quartet in the Library's Coolidge Auditorium

them carefully.

He loved the good life, including good food.

He wrote gracefully, as readers of his memoirs, *My Young Years* (1973) and *My Many Years*(1980), already know, and in many languages.

He knew almost everyone.

And he was a pack rat.

He must have saved almost everything.

There's a letter from a furniture company saying a bill for $103 had been left when furniture was delivered and he was not at home and had not been paid. As he had always paid promptly in the past, perhaps the bill had been mislaid, the letter went on.

There's a birthday telegram from Jack Benny dated 1947 and another from fans in Los Angeles from 1966: "Happy birthday dearest maestro God bless you."

From McAlester, Okla., a 21-year-old piano teacher wrote in 1950 to ask for a photograph to display over her piano "as an inspiration to my pupils and to me."

Aspiring musicians wrote to him for encouragement and assistance; an Arlington, Va., woman sent sketches she had made of him during a concert; institutions sent invitations for performances and offers of committee appointments.

In 1961 *Playboy* magazine publisher Hugh Hefner, also editor and publisher of *Show Business Illustrated*, wired Rubinstein that SBI had selected him for its OWL award as classical artist of the year. Rubinstein responded, "I am very proud to have received your flattering nomination," but told Hefner he was sorry he could not attend the awards ceremony because he was busy on that day.

Music lovers wrote to praise his performances and recordings, to ask for photographs and autographs, and to ask him to perform requests in concerts and recitals they would be attending. Some wrote again to thank him for performing the works they wanted to hear, even though it might have been sheer coincidence.

Syndicated columnist Art Buchwald wrote from Paris in 1961 to request an interview. Then President Jimmy Carter sent a handful of invitations to the White House between 1978 and 1980.

"Just heard your tape of four ballades and four scherzi bouleversé. As always you are still the greatest. Much love. Lenny Bernstein," wrote the composer-conductor in 1977. (Bernstein's use of the French word, *bouleversé*, which can mean "upside down," may have been a private joke.)

An Asheville, N.C., woman wrote to remind him that they had chatted briefly during a chance encounter and to tell him that she would be at his New York concert later that week.

And Albert Einstein in 1947 asked for a contribution to the Emergency Commission of Atomic Scientists for its educational campaign for peaceful applications of atomic energy because an "informed citizenry will act for life and not for death."

Earliest letters in the collection are dated in the 1930s around the time of Rubinstein's 1937 return to Carnegie Hall for a triumphant appearance that made his name a household word to American music lovers. With seemingly boundless energy and musicianship of the highest order, he performed worldwide over the next 40 years, delighting audiences everywhere and producing recordings that thrilled millions more.

Although the 1937 appearance in New York was a career landmark for Rubinstein, he had been performing and winning acclaim in Europe and South America since the turn of the century. He first appeared in the United States in 1906 and again in 1919 but had to wait almost 20 years for his great triumph here.

He moved his family from Paris to California during World War II and

became a U.S. citizen in 1946. Although the Rubinsteins were able to reclaim their Paris home after the war, they found that early correspondence, the pianist's library and volumes of music, along with a drawing of him by Picasso, had been lost. The correspondence, of course, could not be replaced, but when Rubinstein visited Picasso in Cannes after the war, the artist made 24 more drawings of the pianist and gave him four of them.

In the postwar years, Rubinstein continued to move about the world with zest, performing constantly in concert and recital. He continued to perform regularly until 1976, when at the age of 89, he faced deteriorating eyesight. He performed only about two dozen times that year and gave the last concert of his career on May 31 in London's Wigmore Hall.

The *London Times* reviewer had only praise for Rubinstein's performance and called his work "one of the greatest careers in the history of piano."

It might seem that such a career would have been totally absorbing, but Rubinstein always found time for friends and conviviality, as shown in his correspondence. He was particularly thoughtful when writing to other pianists—and he seemed to know them all.

In a 1977 letter to Van Cliburn, thanking him for a gift of roses, Rubinstein expressed his regrets at not hearing the younger pianist play for a long time and urged scheduling of a European concert.

"If it were to happen soon, you would see me sitting in the first row," Rubinstein wrote.

An undated letter to Vladimir Horowitz enthuses, "I just heard your Rachmaninoff Concerto No. 3 which absolutely enchanted me and want to congratulate you."

He declined invitations gently. To Edgar Ailes, a Detroit executive, he wrote that "being a difficult guest" he would prefer not to stay in Ailes's home, but "accept gladly supper after the concert."

In 1975 he responded to a letter from Princess Beatrix, now queen of the Netherlands, that he would accept an invitation for dinner any time in June.

On April 2, 1976, Rubinstein wrote to then President Gerald Ford to thank him for the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian award, presented a day earlier, and for sending him to New York aboard a presidential plane. Rubinstein added, "I have taken the liberty of instructing the RCA company to send you and Mrs. Ford, on my behalf, a few albums of my recordings."

In a late exchange, only months before he died in Geneva at the age of 95, Rubinstein in March 1982 wrote to then Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin to offer encouragement in the face of hip surgery of a sort the pianist had undergone earlier and to reiterate his long-term support for Israel.

Begin responded by calling Rubinstein, "a true son of Israel," where a piano competition was named in his honor.

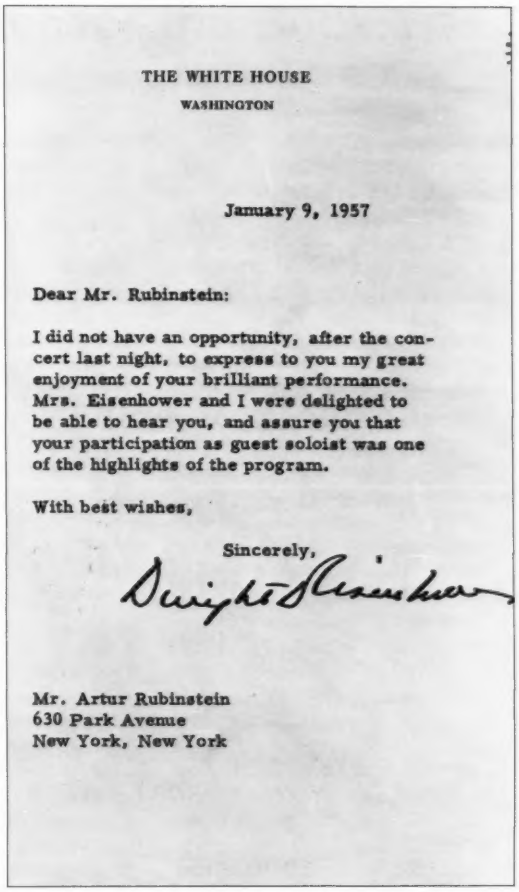
Letters to Princess Beatrix and Begin are in English, although Rubinstein responded in the language of his correspondent if it were one of the eight in which he was fluent.

Thus, researchers using the collection will find, many letters are in Polish, Spanish, French or others of Rubinstein's languages.

They also will find that he signed his name "Arthur Rubinstein" rather than "Artur," a spelling often seen in print.

Encyclopedia Americana and *World Book* use "Arthur," as did *The New York Times* in reporting his death on Dec. 20, 1982. *Encyclopaedia Britannica* uses "Artur" and the *Times of London* used the two different spellings in reviews of his two London concerts in May 1976.

Rubinstein's French driver's license, issued in 1959 and part of



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 9, 1957

Dear Mr. Rubinstein:

I did not have an opportunity, after the concert last night, to express to you my great enjoyment of your brilliant performance. Mrs. Eisenhower and I were delighted to be able to hear you, and assure you that your participation as guest soloist was one of the highlights of the program.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Dwight D. Eisenhower

Mr. Artur Rubinstein
630 Park Avenue
New York, New York

A Jan. 9, 1957, letter from President Dwight Eisenhower, praising Rubinstein for his "brilliant performance"

Sketches of Rubinstein sent by a fan

the Library of Congress collection, has his first named spelled "Arthur" in both typed form and in his signature. The license does, however, carry his date of birth as 1889 and his birthplace as Lodz, while other sources agree on 1887 and Lodz.

Researchers using the Rubinstein collection will be able to study exhaustive evidence of the pianist's influence on music and musicianship in the 20th century.

The New York Times made this clear as it quoted violinist Itzhack Perlman in a story about the death of the pianist and mourning by his colleagues, fans and friends—many in all three categories:

Said Perlman: "I feel a very great part of musical history has passed away. I don't think of Rubinstein as just a pianist, an artist, or a person. I think of him more as a monument. He left such a legacy, he'll be with us for all time."

The Rubinstein Collection at the Library is slated to become part of a large-scale information retrieval project undertaken by the Fundacion Isaac Albeniz in Madrid. The relatively young Spanish institution is involved in an effort to place on CD-ROM electronic images of all of the materials associated with Rubinstein and his wife, including correspondence and music manuscripts.

This ambitious project will catalog items in various formats from all parts of the world—materials held by libraries as well as in private collections—gathering the information in one central electronic source.

The LC Rubinstein Collection is available by appointment for research in the Library's Music Division, which is open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. An index to correspondents is available.

—Jeanne Smith is a public affairs specialist in the Public Affairs Office

News from the Center for the Book:

"Community of Book" Conference Ends with Announcement of Boorstin Endorsement

The prehistory and the future of the Center for the Book came together March 9–10.

At a dinner on March 9 and a conference at the Library on March 10, more than 20 "pioneers" in library-publisher cooperation related their experiences between 1950 and the mid-1970s on behalf of books, reading and libraries. The program, "Activating the Community of the Book," concentrated on the activities of three organizations: the American Book Publishers Council (ABPC), the American Library Association (ALA) and the Library of Congress. These activities marked the beginning of active cooperation within the book community; much was accomplished during those years, and many of the projects have continued to this day.

At the end of the program on March 10, John Y. Cole, the Center for the Book's director, briefed the participants on how the center has adapted many of these earlier ideas and how it has profited from the advice and support of many of those present. He then announced a major gift that will help ensure the center's future: a $1 million endowment from the Annenberg Foundation that honors Librarian of Congress Emeritus Daniel J. Boorstin, who established the center in 1977 (see LC *Information Bulletin*, April 4, 1994). The endowment will be named for Dr. Boorstin and his wife, Ruth F. Boorstin, who are still active supporters of the center and energetic advocates of books and reading.

The program on March 9–10, led by comments and reminiscences from Robert Frase, Dan Lacy and Theodore Waller, focused on cooperative efforts among the ABPC, the ALA and LC in five areas: book and reading promotion; intellectual freedom and access to information; federal legislation and the federal role; the international book scene; and access to books—improving the mechanics.

The starting point for the discussion was 1950, when Theodore Waller joined the American Book Publishers Council as executive director of its Committee on Reading Development (he became managing director in 1952). In February 1951 economist Robert Frase became director of ABPC's Washington office, a position he held until 1970. In 1953, Dan Lacy, formerly chief deputy assistant Librarian of Congress, became ABPC's managing director, serving in the job for more than a decade before he went to McGraw-Hill in 1966.

The discussions and reminiscences of all conference participants were rich and varied. The proceedings were videotaped and recorded and will be published by the Center for the Book.

Book and Reading Promotion. Jean Preer of Catholic University School of Library and Information Science was the discussion leader of this session. Topics included the activities of the ABPC's Committee on Reading Development; the origins and administration of the National Book Awards and National Library Week; the 1951 Conference on Rural Reading and one of its results, the popular anthology edited by Alfred Stefferud, *The Wonderful World of Books* (1952); the programs and initiatives of the National Book Committee (1954–1974), which was sponsored primarily by the ABPC and the American Library Association (ALA); and the origins of Reading Is Fundamental Inc., which was established in 1966.

Intellectual Freedom and Access to Information. Richard Kleeman of the Association of American Publishers was discussion leader. The major topics were: the censorship efforts of the early 1950s, including the efforts of Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy's Senate Subcommittee on Investigations to purge "pro-communist" books from the overseas information libraries of the State Department; the origins, at an ABPC/ALA-sponsored conference in May 1953 that was chaired by Librarian of Congress Luther H. Evans, of the

The March 9–10 program was led by (from left): Theodore Waller, Dan Lacy, John Cole and Robert Frase.

Freedom to Read Declaration, a statement endorsed by many other groups and still used by ALA and other organizations; and additional intellectual freedom efforts by ALA, AAP and other organizations.

Federal Legislation and the Federal Role. The discussion leader was Richard M. Schmidt, who served as general counsel of the U.S. Information Agency and subsequently as counsel for the ABPC and AAP, its successor organization. Topics included postal rates for books and other educational materials; the Informational Media Guaranty Program (1948–1968); the establishment of ALA's Washington office in 1945, which led to the development of federal support for libraries, beginning with the Library Services Act of 1956; and the establishment of the Federal Library Committee in 1965.

The International Book Scene. Publisher Mark Carroll was the discussion leader. Topics included the Universal Copyright Convention of 1954; efforts to combat book piracy; Franklin Book Programs Inc. (1952–1979); the Berne Convention-UCC Revisions of 1970; the elimination of tariff barriers on books and other scientific, educational and cultural materials through the Florence Agreement and its subsequent protocol; the Government Advisory Committee on Book and Library Programs (1962–1977); UNESCO book and reading promotion activities; and UNESCO recommendations on international publishing and library statistics.

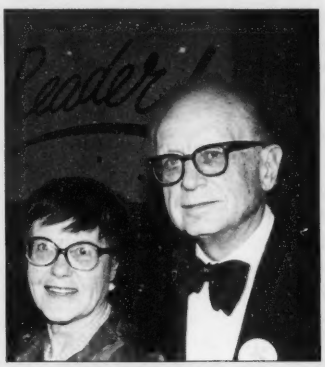
Access to Books—Improving the Mechanics. Former Deputy Librarian of Congress John G. Lorenz chaired this session. Topics included the origins of the program to print Library of Congress catalog card numbers in books; the development of the Cataloging-in-Publication program, including the role of the Council on Library Resources Inc. in this and other LC projects; the establishment of the ISBN and the ISSN as bibliographic and commercial tools; the Library Materials Price Index; and early efforts to improve library and publishing standards and statistics.

Eileen Cooke and Hardy Franklin also participated in the conference. *Photo by Jim Higgins*

Other topics discussed included the origins of the National Advisory Commission on Libraries and the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS); the origins of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress; the work of the National Commission on New Technological Uses of Copyrighted Works (CONTU) and of the ALA Commission on Freedom and Equality of Access to Information; and legislative efforts to encourage the use of permanent paper.

The final conference discussion looked ahead and identified areas in which cooperative efforts needed to be renewed or intensified, along with new areas of concern. There was general agreement that the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress and NCLIS were logical partners for several fresh initiatives.

Conference participants and guests not previously mentioned include: former ABPC staff members Peter S. Jennison, Dana Pratt and Virginia Mathews (who currently is a Center for the Book consultant); publisher



Advocates of the Book

Daniel J. and Ruth Boorstin at a 1987 reception for the Center for the Book's first national reading promotion campaign, "Year of the Reader." Dr. Boorstin's views on books and reading and his role in creating the Center for the Book are described in *The Republic of Letters: Librarian of Congress Daniel J. Boorstin on Books, Reading and Libraries, 1975–1987* (1989), a 115-page book available from the Center for the Book.

Simon Michael Bessie, chairman of the Center for the Book; Eileen Cooke, director of the ALA Washington office from 1972 until 1994; Hardy R. Franklin, ALA president and the director of the District of Columbia Library System; William Lofquist of the Department of Commerce; Deanna Marcum, LC director for public services and collection management I; Roy Millenson, former director for education and library affairs, AAP; Ann E. Prentice, dean, College of Library and Information Services, University of Maryland at College Park; Mary Alice Reszetar, NCLIS associate executive director; consultant Maurice Rosenblatt; NCLIS chair Jean Simon, who was the luncheon speaker; Sarah Thomas, LC director for cataloging; AAP President Nicolas Veliotis; Robert Wedgeworth, dean of libraries at the University of Illinois at Champaign and former ALA executive director; and Roger Williams, AAP director of public affairs.

"Activating the Community of the Book" conferees also heard from Sarah Thomas, the Library's director of cataloging, who explained how LC is tackling its backlog of unprocessed materials with streamlined procedures to speed up cataloging.

Printed Editions of Gershwin Musicals to Become Available

The Leonore S. Gershwin-Library of Congress Recording and Publishing Project has begun work on a series of scholarly *printed editions* of Gershwin musicals as the second phase of the project, which was initiated in 1989.

The series of printed editions will use manuscripts housed in the Music Division of the Library, as well as those preserved at the Ira and Leonore Gershwin Trusts, to assemble piano-vocal editions of the classic Gershwin scores.

Since the initiation of the first phase of the Gershwin-Library of Congress Project, complete recordings of four musical theater works have been prepared: *Girl Crazy; Strike Up the Band; Lady, Be Good!;* and *Pardon My English* (soon to be released).

The first score in the series of printed editions to be completed will be *Strike Up the Band,* the landmark collaboration among the Gershwin brothers and librettist George S. Kaufman. It is expected to be available in 1995.

A biting satire of war profiteering and jingoism, *Strike Up the Band* opened in Philadelphia in September 1927 to critical cheers. But its subject matter proved too controversial for Jazz Age audiences, and by the time the show reached New York—nearly three years later—it had been heavily revised.

In 1991 Roxbury Recordings produced the first recording of the original *Strike Up the Band* as part of the Leonore S. Gershwin-Library of Congress Recording and Publishing Project. Stephen Holden in *The New York Times* predicted, "It should broaden the reputation of a composer who is still identified in most people's minds with his two-dozen best-known popular standards, the opera *Porgy and Bess* and *Rhapsody in Blue.*" Now the score will be preserved in printed form as well.

Orchestrator and conductor Steven D. Bowen, who served as musical supervisor on the acclaimed 1991 recording, will work on the score. Collaborating with Mr. Bowen will be James W. Pruett, chief of the Music Division of the Library, and Tommy Krasker, president of Roxbury Recordings, the company created in 1989 by Leonore (Mrs. Ira) Gershwin to document and celebrate the Gershwin brothers' rich and rewarding legacy.

The George and Ira Gershwin Collection at the Library of Congress is the world's preeminent source for original materials documenting the lives and works of the Gershwins. It contains extraordinary holdings of manuscript and printed music for virtually every important type of work, from the concert pieces of George Gershwin, such as *Rhapsody in Blue, Concerto in F* and *An American in Paris,* to the stage and screen collaborations of George and Ira Gershwin, including *Porgy and Bess, Of Thee I Sing* and *Girl Crazy.* In addition, the collection contains photographs, programs, scrapbooks, paintings and drawings, correspondence and other memorabilia. These materials are available for use by researchers and scholars in the Performing Arts Reading Room of the Library of Congress, which is open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday–Saturday.

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